

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-10 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 AID-05

ACDA-10 OMB-01 SAJ-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 EB-07 MC-02 /089 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 121

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONGEN ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

EUCOM

CINCUSAFE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

USNMR SHAPE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, CY, GR

SUBJECT: FURTHER TURKISH PRESS REACTION TO GOT ACTION ON  
INSTALLATIONS

REF: ANKARA 5776

1. SUNDAY (JULY 27) EDITIONS OF MAJOR TURKISH DAILIES CONTINUED  
TO BE DOMINATED BY DEVELOPMENTS FOLLOWING THE GOT'S DECISION  
CONCERNING U.S. INSTALLATIONS. EDITORIAL COMMENT ALSO REMAINED  
INTENSE AND ANGRY IN TONE (SEE REFTEL).

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2. TOP STORIES IN MOST PAPERS REPORTED THAT THE IMPOSITION  
OF TURKISH CONTROL OVER U.S. INSTALLATIONS HAD BEGUN AND

THAT THE TURKISH FLAG HAD BEEN RAISED OVER THEM. SEVERAL PAPERS, INCLUDING GUNAYDIN GAVE TOP PLAY TO A REPORT THAT CUSTOMS AUTHORITIES IN IZMIR HAD BEGUN AN INVENTORY OF PX SUPPLIES IN PREPARATION FOR THE COLLECTION OF DUTIES.

3. SEVERAL PAPERS, INCLUDING MILLIYET, CUMHURİYET AND BARIS GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO A STATEMENT BY REPUBLICAN PEOPLES PARTY CHAIRMAN BULENT ECEVIT, WHO IS VISITING ROMANIA, CALLING FOR AN IMMEDIATE AND COMPLETE REVIEW OF TURKISH FOREIGN POLICY. ECEVIT SAID THAT EVEN HAD THE CONGRESS LIFTED THE EMBARGO, THE SITUATION WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ACCEPTABLE TO TURKEY BECAUSE OF CONDITIONS ATTACHED AND BECAUSE THE DELIVERY OF ARMS WAS BEING USED AS A MEANS OF IMPOSING CONTROL ON THE COUNTRY.

4. MOST PAPERS ALSO GAVE FRONT PAGE PLAY TO A SPEECH IN ADANA BY PRIME MINISTER SULEYMAN DEMIREL. ACCOUNTS NOTED THAT HE DID NOT MENTION THE UNITED STATES BY NAME, BUT SAID: "TURKEY HAS NEVER IN HER HISTORY LET OTHERS TRAMPLE ON HER NATIONAL HONOR. SHE WILL NOT LET OTHERS DO SO NOW."

5. OTHER STATEMENTS BY TURKISH POLITICAL LEADERS INCLUDED THOSE BY:

--INTERIOR MINISTER OGUZHAN ASILTURK, WHO REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION FRIDAY WAS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF A PLAN WORKED OUT BY THE TURKISH GENERAL STAFF. ACCORDING TO CUMHURİYET ASILTURK SAID THAT ACTIVITIES WOULD BE CONTINUED AT INSTALLATIONS WHERE THE TGS BELIEVED THERE WAS A NEED AND DISCONTINUED WHERE IT DID NOT FEEL SUCH A NEED. ACCORDING TO GUNAYDIN, ASILTURK DECLARED THAT THE CURRENT ACTION DID NOT REPRESENT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "PROVISIONAL STATUS" FOR U.S. INSTALLATIONS WHICH HAD BEEN MENTIONED BY THE GOT LAST JUNE.

--JUSTICE PARTY SENATOR KAMRAN INAN, WHO REPORTEDLY DECLARED THAT 30 YEARS OF AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP HAS COME TO AN END AND WHO SAID THAT THE GREEKS, HAVING SOWED ENMITY AGAINST TURKEY IN THE U.S. CANNOT HOPE TO REAP FRIENDSHIP IN THE AEGEAN.

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--FERRUH BOZBEYLI, CHAIRMAN OF THE OPPOSITION DEMOCRAT PARTY, WHO REPORTEDLY TOLD A PARTY MEETING THAT HE VIEWED STEPS AGAINST THE U.S. INSTALLATIONS TAKEN BY THE GOT POSITIVELY, "LATE THOUGH THEY MIGHT BE."

6. STORIES ON U.S. AND NATO REACTION ALSO RECEIVED PROMINENT ATTENTION. ACCORDING TO HURRIYET, ACTIVITIES CONCERNING THE HELSINKI MEETING AND PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT TO SEVERAL EUROPEAN COUNTRIES HAVE BEEN PUT ON THE BACK BURNER WHILE ADMINISTRATION

OFFICIALS ATTEMPT TO DEAL WITH THE NEW SITUATION. AN UNDERLINE TO HURRIYET'S MAIN FRONT PAGE BANNER DECLARED THAT: "ACCORDING TO AMERICAN EXPERTS AN AGREEMENT IS ESSENTIAL WHATEVER THE COST MAY BE." IN A NEW YORK DATELINED REPORT, THE PAPER SAID THAT FROM THE MAN ON THE STREET TO TELEVISION COMMENTATORS TO HEADLINE WRITERS, TURKEY'S ACTION HAD HIT WITH THE "EFFECT OF AN ATOM BOMB" AMONG THE AMERICAN PUBLIC.

7. MILLIYET IN A WASHINGTON DATELINED STORY SAID THE ADMINISTRATION WAS WORKING TO ARRANGE A MEETING BETWEEN PRESIDENT FORD AND PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL IN HELSINKI AND THAT THE U.S. IS CONSIDERING THREE ALTERNATIVES:

--OFFERING TURKEY MILITARY ASSISTANCE FINANCED THROUGH A FUND WHOSE USE IS AT THE DISCRETION OF THE PRESIDENT;

--PROVIDING ARMS AID TO TURKEY THROUGH OTHER NATO ALLIES;

--CALLING ON CONGRESS TO SPEEDILY RECONSIDER ITS VOTE LAST THURSDAY.

MILLIYET, LIKE HURRIYET, REPORTED THAT THE GOT ACTION HAD PRODUCED CONSTERNATION IN WASHINGTON.

8. IN A TOP FRONT PAGE STORY, MILLIYET REPORTED THAT TURKEY HAD SENT A MESSAGE TO NATO SEC GEN LUNS REQUESTING A SPECIAL MEETING OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES TO DISCUSS THE EFFECTS OF TURKEY'S ACTION ON NATO DEFENSES. GUNAYDIN, IN A BRUSSELS DATELINED DISPATCH SAID A NATO SPOKESMAN HAD TERMED THE TURKISH MOVE "A CAUSE FOR REGRET".

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9. IN OTHER COVERAGE, SEVERAL PAPERS GAVE FRONT PAGE PLAY TO A NICOSIA DATELINED STORY SAYING THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF THE TURKISH FEDERATED STAE ON CYPRUS HAD ANNOUNCED THAT IT WOULD ACT SHORTLY TO CLOSE U.S. BASES WITHIN ITS BOUNDRIES.

10. FINALLY, THE SMALL, CONSERVATIVE ANKARA DAILY ZAFER SAID IN A BANNER HEADLINE STORY SAID THAT U.S. PHANTOM AIRCRAFT IN TURKEY MIGHT BE CONFISCATED IF THE U.S. DOES NOT RETURN 185 MILLION DOLLARS (SIC) PAID BY TURKEY FOR UNDELIVERED U.S. ARMS. ZAFER SAID TURKISH AUTHORITES ARE STUDYING THE MATTER.

11. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN SUNDAY EDITIONS LARGELY REPEATED THE THEMES DEVELOPED IN COLUMNS SATURDAY (SEE REFTTEL).

12. IN ADDITION, EDITORIALISTS IN PRO-GOVERNMENT PAPERS, INCLUDING TERCUMAN AND SON HAVADIS, ASSERTED THAT FRIDAY'S

MOVE HAD DEMONSTRATED THAT THE DEMIREL ADMINISTRATION COULD ACT FORCEFULLY IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST. SON HAVADIS ADDED THAT: "EVEN NOW, PRESIDENT FORD IS TRYING TO HAVE THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES RECONSIDER THE MATTER. THE EFFORTS OF PRESIDENT FORD SHOULD BE PRAISED. UNLESS THE HOUSE CHANGES ITS DECISION AND RELEASES OUR CONFISCATED ARMS, IT WILL BE TURKEY'S LEGAL RIGHT TO CONFISCATE THE MATERIAL AND EQUIPMENT LOCATED ON AMERICAN BASES IN RETURN."

13. IN CONTRAST TO THIS VIEW, COLUMNISTS IN OPPOSITION PAPERS ASSERTED THAT THE DEMIREL GOVERNMENT HAD NO CHOICE. SOME OF THESE WRITERS SAID THAT HAD IT NOT ACTED FIRMLY, PUBLIC OPINION WOULD HAVE DRIVEN THE GOVERNMENT FROM OFFICE. BUT ABDI IPEKCI, EDITOR OF MILLIYET, SAW THE HAND OF HISTORICAL NECESSITY AT WORK IN THE GOT'S ACTION. SAID IPEKCI: "INCLUDED IN THE WORLD VIEW OF THE PARTIES NOW IN POWER WAS ATTACHMENT AND LOYALTY TO AMERICA. FOR YEARS, THEY HAD BRANDED AS TRAITORS THOSE WHO WANTED TO ALTER RELATIONS AND CLOSE DOWN THE BASES. ...BUT THE COURSE OF HISTORY HAS GIVEN THEM THE TASK OF CHANGING RELATIONS AND CLOSING DOWN THE BASES. YES, NOBODY IS ABLE TO CHANGE THE COURSE OF HISTORY."

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